As the earth brings forth its plants, and a garden makes its growth spring up, so will the Lord God make justice and praise spring up before all the nations.
Isaiah 61:11
Welcome to St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church! We are glad that you came to join us for Mass. We hope that you feel welcome in our parish community. We are a Roman Catholic community dedicated to worshiping God, proclaiming the Gospel, teaching the faith, and serving our brothers and sisters. Whether you are just visiting or looking for a faith community to call home, we hope that you feel welcome with us. May God bless you!

Email: sfxchurch1@embarqmail.com  
Facebook: St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church  
Office: 573.395.4401  Fax: 573.395.4302  
Parish Website: www.sfxtaosmo.org  
Bookkeeper- Cecilia Lock  Email: clock@sfxtaos.com (ext. 1002)  
Secretary - Laurie Herzing  Email: lherzing@sfxtaos.com (ext. 1001)  
Religious Education Director - Shelle Sandbothe  Email: reled@sfxtaos.com (ext. 1003)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4:15 - 4:45 p.m.
or anytime by appointment.

PASTORAL COUNCIL: Jason Hoffmeyer, President 395-4305; Mark Wankum, Vice President 573-808-5070; Sara Kerperin, Secretary 230-1112; Janet Klebba, Social Concerns 680-9925; Jody Bennett 353-4410; Bill Buschman 659-1583; Dale Heckman 645-1905; Jeff Pleus 395-4428; Tim Riley 291-3991; DeWayne Sprenger 690-3683; Sarah Twehus 528-7208; Julie Wilbers 291-6893; Josh Sandbothe, Property Manager 690-2861

MISSION STATEMENT: St. Francis Xavier Parish is an example of Christ’s Love by educating, serving and celebrating our faith with others in our community.

Adopted by Parish Council Fall 1997

St. Francis Xavier School  7307 Rt. M, Jefferson City, MO 65101
Jordan Tobar - Principal  Email: jtobar@sfxtaos.com
Office: 573.395.4612  Fax: 573.395.4017  
School website: www.sfxtaos.com

† Pray the Rosary at 7:10 p.m. every first Wednesday of each month at the K of C Hall, Taos
† Pray the Rosary at Church before each Mass.
† Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet prior to Tuesday evening Mass at 6:40 p.m. in Church until 7:00p.m.
† Baptism: Contact Father regarding preparation sessions and scheduling.
† Marriage: Contact Father at least six months in advance for preparation and scheduling.
**Mass Intentions**

“For the sons and daughters of the Church: that we may be the light of God’s love for the world by our sacrificial gifts for those in need, especially the children of our world.”

**Monday, Dec 14th:**
No Mass

**Tuesday, Dec 15th:**
8:00 a.m. - No Mass

**Wednesday, Dec 16th: (School Mass Only)**
10:00 a.m. - Lawrence Falter

**Thursday, Dec 17th:**
8:00 a.m. - Liturgy of the Word with Deacon Mike

**Friday, Dec 18th:**
8:00 a.m. - No Mass

**Saturday, Dec 19th:**
5:00 p.m. - Donald Prenger

**Sunday, Dec 20th:**
8:00 a.m. - Rosemary Prenger
10:00 a.m. - L&D Andrew & Teresa Kloeppel, Linda Forck, and Scott Kempker Families

If you know of someone who no longer needs envelopes, please contact the parish office. This is a parish expense. For those of you who have your offertory collection done electronically and do not receive monthly envelopes, the special envelopes for Dec are: First Offering, Samaritan Center, Immaculate Conception, Parish School, Capital Improvements/Repairs, Christmas Offering, and Seminarian Formation & Priests Retirement.

**Helias Catholic High School:** is seeking a Theology Teacher full or part-time beginning in January. For the full job description, please go to the Helias website at [www.heliascatholic.com/AboutUs/EmploymentOpportunities](http://www.heliascatholic.com/AboutUs/EmploymentOpportunities) or contact the office at 573-635-6139.

**Important**

**Anointing of the Sick:** Due to hospitals’ strict protocols, it is important to seek the sacraments of the Anointing of the Sick and Reconciliation prior to going to the hospital. Most hospitals only allow a priest to provide the sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick if the patient has been placed on comfort care (hospice) or is nearing death.

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**Liturgical Ministries**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>5:00 p.m.</th>
<th>8:00 a.m.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eucharistic Ministers</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 19 &amp; 20</td>
<td>Keith Henke</td>
<td>Patty Verslues</td>
<td>Martha Wallis</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Karen Holterman</td>
<td>MB</td>
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<td><strong>Lector</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Keith Henke</td>
<td>Maureen Leroy</td>
<td>Rick Wallis</td>
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<td><strong>Ushers</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Carol Forck</td>
<td>Dan Verslues</td>
<td>Roger Shikles</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tony Forck</td>
<td>Dennis Verslues</td>
<td>Bill Buschman</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jim Buschjost</td>
<td>Wayne Verslues</td>
<td>Jim Thessen</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lisa Buschjost</td>
<td>Ron Talken</td>
<td>Alan Cortvrient</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Musicians</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kathy</td>
<td>Jackie</td>
<td>Katnik</td>
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Parish now offers **Low-GLuten Hosts.** Come to the sacristy to make your request 15 minutes before Mass.

If you or someone you know is homebound and would like to receive communion or a visit, call the office at 395-4401.

Parish Prayer Line—Alma Sandbothe 573-395-4666 or Shirley Toebben 573-619-0674. For emergencies, weekends or after-hours, Fr. Penn 395-4401

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**Birthright**

The Annual Birthright Shower at St. Francis Xavier has been canceled due to the ongoing pandemic.

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**Quilters!!!**

We have begun quilting, Josh Sandbothe has offered us his basement. Quilting Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9 a.m. Call Georgene (619-4610) if you have any questions. Can quilt daytime or evening. Please come join us!
As a Spirit-filled people, our vocational call is to radiate the light of Christ in the world. It is not to be our light nor our brilliance. It is to be that of Christ: for it is His light and His Wisdom that will bring us to the fullness of who we have been created to be. As John the Baptist boldly proclaimed the Coming of the Messiah and the in-breaking of God’s Kingdom in the world, we too are called and chosen to do the same. This is how we find our joy, and this is how we pierce the darkness of hopelessness by fulfilling our call to discipleship. Let us always avoid evil and strive to do good by modelling the life of Christ. This Tuesday, Fr. Medina and I will be available for individual Confessions in the church from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and on Thursday from 6:00 pm.-8:00 p.m. I urge everyone to take this opportunity to receive this sacrament in preparation for the Christmas Season.

Prayer for Third Advent

Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

“We are here...to celebrate life, because life has been created in the image of God. Life is to love and to be loved.”

MOTHER TERESA
Do Something Beautiful for God

Religious Education

Shelle Sandbothe, Director of Religious Education, 573-395-4401 ext.1003

Prayer for Communion of Desire

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, renew my heart now with the power of Your Spirit. I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You. Unite me more closely to Your Body, the Church. And never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen

Totus Tuus Applications

Are you a Catholic young adult interested in bringing the Gospel to kids and teens across our diocese? Please consider applying to be a Totus Tuus missionary. Download the materials at diojeffcity.org/totus-tuus/ and return your application to khartman@diojeffcity.org. We do hire on a rolling basis, so the earlier the better! The application packet includes a job description, application, and instructions for a letter of recommendation. Totus Tuus Missionaries serve from May 27 – Aug 1. This is a full-time, paid position.

Learn more: cccnmo.diojeffcity.org/about-us/careers
Hello! Emma Luebbering and I (Claire Koenigsfeld) are FCCLA officers at Fatima Highschool. For our STAR (Students Taking Action with Recognition) project we have created a flip grid that has many books on it. This link https://flipgrid.com/libbert2864 can lead children to books that all it takes is hitting the play button to listen to. Reading is incredibly important for youth and we want it to be possible for as many children as possible to listen to them. If at all possible, we would greatly appreciate it if you shared this with children you know, teachers at your community schools, and parents as well. Thank you for any advertising you may do for this. We hope you enjoy these as much as the elementary at Fatima has. Let me know if you have any questions.

As you’re planning your gift list for Christmas, why not consider one that will give beyond this season and maybe forever? Consider making a planned gift to St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church. To learn more about possibilities, please call the parish office.

**Penance, Christmas & New Year Masses**

**Penance Services**

- Tuesday, December 15: 11:00 - 1:00 p.m.
- Thursday, December 17: 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**Fr. Ignazio Medina will assist with the above times**

- Monday, December 21: 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Thursday, December 17: 11:00 - 1:00 p.m.

**Christmas Eve - Thursday, December 24th**

- Masses at
  - 3:00 p.m. with overflow in the SFX Cafeteria (Live)
  - 7:00 p.m. with overflow in the SFX Cafeteria
  - 9:00 p.m. SFX Church only

**Christmas Day - Friday, December 25th**

- Mass at 9:00 a.m. SFX Church only

**New Year’s Eve - Thursday, December 31st**

- 5:30 p.m. (Live)

**New Year’s Day - Friday, January 1st, 2021**

- 9:00 a.m.

**SFX 2019 Year End Contributions**

St. Francis Xavier thanks you for your financial generosity this past year. All 2020 contributions must be at the parish office by Dec. 31st. Any contributions received after that date will be counted as 2021 contributions. If you would like a record of your financial support, please call the parish office after Jan. 19, 2021. We will notify you when the report is available to be picked up.

**Third Sunday of Advent**

God is so wonderful and good!

We are filled with joy and we rejoice because of God’s goodness.

Finish drawing the bottom sign so it looks like the top one.

Then color both.

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Write the letters on the folded hands in correct number order.

They will spell what Paul told the Christians in Thessalonica to keep doing.
**Ladies KC Auxiliary**: With Covid-19 concerns, the December KC Auxiliary Bake Sale & Auxiliary Christmas Party events held in December have been **cancelled**. Also, there will be no December meeting. Next scheduled meeting will be **Monday, January 11, 2021**.

**New criteria for KC Ladies Auxiliary membership**: Members must be at least 17 ½ years old and a practicing Catholic. New members no longer need to have a spouse or father to be a KC member for them to become a KC Ladies Auxiliary member. If anyone is interested in becoming an auxiliary member, please contact Dolores Urban at 573-680-0716.

**Taos Wreaths for Heroes**: Please join us in participating in the Annual Taos Wreaths for Heroes Program on **Saturday, December 19**th at 9 am in St Francis Xavier Church with wreath laying on veteran’s graves to take place at the parish cemetery immediately following the indoor program. Guest speaker this year will be the State Representative for the 60th District, Congressman David Griffith and the theme for the program is “Be an American Worth Fighting For.” Please help us honor veterans and their families this Christmas season. Family members and friends are especially encouraged to attend. Please feel free to contact Dan or Charlotte Schnieders if you have any questions or comments at 573-635-2662 or dan.schnieders@yahoo.com. The ceremony will require adherence to current COVID social distance and mask requirements.

**Holiday Memorials**: are a great way to remember those who have died. If you would like to make a donation in the memory of a loved one, his or her name will appear in the holiday bulletin. A suggested offering would be **$15**. This offering will go toward the upkeep and decorating of our beautiful church. Must be received by **Wednesday, December 16th** to get in the Christmas bulletin as it goes to print early due to the holidays.

**Thank You**

Thank you to all the People of the Parish who have helped support a third meal for the Salvation Army’s Feed the Hungry Program. There are currently plans to host another Feed the Hungry for the Salvation Army in January 2021. If you are interested and/or willing to help out please contact Mary Eiken at 573-338-0510.

**Area Churches - Every 1st and 3rd Monday, at St. Stanislaus Church**, prayer service for an end to, and truth regarding Covid-19. **7-7:30 p.m.**

**St. Joseph parish in Westphalia** will hold a Patriotic prayer service at **6 p.m.** one Sunday each month. Date Dec. 13.

**Samaritan Center Adoption 2020**

If you’re interested in adopting a family for Christmas from the Samaritan Center please go to [www.midmosamaritan.org](http://www.midmosamaritan.org) to download the form. Adoption forms are located under the forms tab. They can also, be picked up at the parish office or in the back of church.

Examples of Minimum Expectations for a Family Adoption **Family of 5** - (2 Parents, 2 children under 12, and 1 child 15, estimated cost $180.00).

- 2 gifts for each child (12 or younger) averaging $15.00 each ($60.00).
- 1 gift for each parent and each child age 13-19 at $15.00 ($45.00).

A gift card to local grocery store for a Christmas meal at $15.00 per person ($75.00)

Processing Costs (paper, bags, bows, name tags, shopping, etc.) $4.00 per person ($20.00).

**Total for Family is $200.00**

**CHURCH CLEANING POLICY**: If you are unable to work on your assigned date, let your coordinator know and turn in your **$15** to the parish office. **Coordinators listed below**. Students who are seeking service hours are welcome to help clean. Please contact the weekly coordinator to verify when you will be there (1-2 hours Saturday morning, or occasionally a Friday evening).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1: Dec 5</th>
<th>Week 2: Dec 12</th>
<th>Week 3: Dec 19</th>
<th>Week: 4 Dec 26</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Elaine Callaway</strong> 690-8966</td>
<td><strong>Debbie Borgmeyer 680-9748 &amp; Elaine Ready 619-6803</strong></td>
<td><strong>Jean Pinnell 694-2111</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sue Sandbothe 230-3154</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kim Feltrup, Dana Fennewald, Loretta Fennewald, Jillian Fidler, Diana Findley</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tina Forbis, Lisa Forck, Margaret Forck, Teri Forck, Cynthia Forck</strong></td>
<td><strong>Carolyn Forck (Dennis), Shawna Forck, Imogene Forck, Rhonda Forck, Debbie Forck</strong></td>
<td><strong>Laurie Forck, Elaine Forck, Carolyn Forck (Joe), Sonya Forck, Jana Forck</strong></td>
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